(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) Such a suggestion has not come to our notice. However, the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities already provides that wherever possible, Ministries/Departments concerned will earmark 15 per cent of the physical targets and financial outlays for minorities.

Conditions of minorities

475. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the extent to which the condition of minorities has been ameliorated and what more is required to be done?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): Government is committed to ensuring the welfare of the minorities. The Prime Minister's new 15 point programme for the welfare of minorities is a major step in this direction.

Development of non-conventional energy

476. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government helps various States to develop non-conventional energy by disbursing funds through the State Renewable Energy Development Agencies;

(b) what is the operational and functional relationship between IREDA and the State Government agencies;

(c) the quantum of funds disbursed to different States in 2005-06; and

(d) the manner in which Government monitors these funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government provides central financial assistance for deployment of various